

TAR HEEL



ROCKHOUND

Organized 1969

MARCH 2011

CATAWBA VALLEY GEM & MINERAL CLUB, INC.

2011 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

President:	Baxter Leonard 828-320-402 8	Editor:	Velda McLean 828-750-4213	Show Chairmen:	George Max 828-328-9107
Vice President:	Loyd Hoke 828-256-2466	Field Trip:	Harry Polly 828-728-9553		Eric Fritz 828-495-7031
Treasurer:	Zan Ritchie 828-495-8456	Education:	Glenn Bolick	Scholarship:	George Max 828-328-9107
Secretary:	Dean Russell 828-330-0034				

Club Address: PO Box 2521, Hickory, NC 28603-2521
 Regular Meetings: Second Tuesday, 7:00 PM
 St Aloysius Catholic Church
 921 2nd St NE Hickory, NC
 Annual Dues: Family, \$18; Individual, \$12; Junior, \$6

The purpose of the Club is to increase the individual's knowledge of the earth sciences and to aid in the development of lapidary and related arts and skills; to promote fellowship and exchange of ideas; to hold exhibitions, contests, lectures and demonstrations for educational purposes; to help interest more people in the gem and mineral hobby; and to capture and preserve the beauty of nature, the arts, and the works of man.

GEM SHOW GRAND DOOR PRIZE

This beautiful slab of rhodochrosite is the grand door prize For this year's show. It will go to the holder of the lucky show pass.

Drawing will be held at the end of the show on Sunday. The winner does not have to be present.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

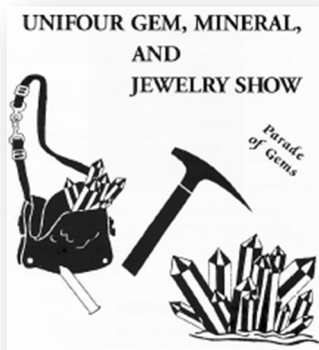
Baxter Leonard, Club President

March is a busy month for CVGMC and its members. Much work that is apparent as well as not apparent goes into producing/ sponsoring a gem/mineral/ fossil show.

This month all members whenever possible need to contribute time & effort to ensure the final result is what all of us strive to achieve. CVGMC has a reputation with its past shows of excellent vendors, exhibits-both by members & special guests, as well as demonstrations. If each member can contribute a certain amount of time, this show should be just as good as past shows. Our officers and members in the past have set a level of excellence that we need to continue.

Having said this, we also should not miss the chance to have fun, because this is a hobby all of us enjoy. Each child's expression on learning something new is one of my greatest rewards at our show, and parents certainly appreciate our extra effort when we spend some time with their child. I look forward to the challenges of our annual show, and hope to see each of you there at some time. Let's make this show as excellent as possible for the public as well as ourselves.

Baxter Leonard



CATAWBA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

Minutes, February 8, 2011

The February 8, 2011 meeting of the CVGMC was called to order by President Baxter Leonard at 7:00 PM. There were 32 members and two guests present. The minutes of the January 2011 meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Report: Zan Ritchie reported by email that the checkbook balance was \$12,316.60. This is \$3,000 more than last year at this time.

Field Trip Report: February field trip will be collect Limonite after Pyrite at Bower's Farm in Norwood, NC on 2-12-2011.

Show Committee: George Max asked for volunteers to help move tables on March 14th from the trailer to the Hickory Metro Convention Center. He is still trying to obtain an insurance rider from the Club's insurance agent. George is also still trying to get information on the Smithsonian Exhibit. He also reports that brochures are coming and suggested that the flyers are put on the website and/or emailed so members can print and distribute. He is also hoping that several schools will be able to attend the show.

Education Committee: Elizabeth Elementary School in Shelby was visited with over 100 children in attendance.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: President Baxter discussed the donation of the Club's 8 foot tables to the HMCC. There are approximately 45-48 tables that the Club stores and uses only for the yearly show. There is much labor involved, by the Club members, in moving the tables to the HMCC, setting them up and then taking them down and taking back to the trailer. By transferring ownership to the HMCC, the rent and set-up fees in the future would be waived. Baxter did a phone/email poll of the Club Board of Directors, who approved the idea to put the transfer of ownership of the tables to the HMCC up for a vote to the Club membership. The motion was made by the Board of Directors to approve this. The Club voted unanimously to approve.

Various Club members are going to donate their time and knowledge on Saturday, February 26th at the Catawba Science Center from 11 AM – 3 PM.

Red Reitzel presented rock samples from Scaly Mountain for identification.

The **Bragging Rock Contest** will be moved to the April meeting.

Program: The February meeting's speaker was Bruce Beerbower, the Director of Visitor Service at the Catawba Science Center. He gave a very interesting talk and slide show presentation about the Mount St. Helens 1980 eruption.

Closing of Business: The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Dean Russell, Secretary

NO MARCH MEETING

FIELD TRIP

Harry Polly, Field Trip Coordinator

No fieldtrip this month. We did have nine people show up for the limonite dig-- six of our members, two from the Conover club, plus one guest. All had a successful dig.

pollysrock@yahoo.com
828-244-6651 (cell)

Harry

NO DUES ACCEPTED AT THE SHOW!

No membership applications or membership dues will be accepted at the show. To pay your dues for 2011, send an application form and a check for the appropriate amount shown on the form to Catawba Valley Gem and Mineral Club, P.O. Box 2521, Hickory, NC 28603. Need a form? Contact any club officer listed in this bulletin.

Alexander Ritchie, Club Treasurer

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

MOTIVATION: CAREFUL! IT'S CONTAGIOUS

by Michele Yamanaka, former Midwest Federation Jr. Activities Chair
from the MWF Newsletter, January 2011

Transmission:

Rockhounditis can be caught all year around, but it is more noticeable in warm weather. It can be transmitted via people, sunshine, museums, rock piles, and many other ways.



Incubation period: Variable. Genetic? Probably not part of any chromosome, but susceptibility or the tendency seems to run families.

Duration: Once caught, it usually is permanent. However, if caught when young, it may enter a period of remission and become re-activated later in life.

Symptoms: Has trouble sleeping before a field trip; keeps eyes on the ground, parks car in driveway because garage is full of rocks; gets up at preposterous hours to drive in ridiculous weather just to dig around in dirt or mud; may return from a vacation with suitcases full of rocks; accumulates boxes of rocks, minerals or fossils in the basement, under couches and beds, in closets and generally any formerly empty space; and, most importantly, is always giving specimens away to any willing soul.

CASE HISTORIES

1. Older brother gives younger brother a favorite rock because he has entered rockhounditis remission. Younger brother checks book out of library to see what the rock is and decides it's "cool."

2. Son shows parents some multicolored petrified wood and an amethyst geode. Because they are pretty, parents enjoy them. Then son asks them to look for petrified wood for him on parent's trip. Parents look for petrified wood and are amazed at the variety. Parents bring back rocks to give him, keeping the best for themselves. Parents thereafter search out rocks without being asked.

3. Unsuspecting girl walks along river by school. She sees something shining in the sunshine in the river rock dumped to control erosion. She finds glassy crystals that remind her of jewels. She takes them to her science teacher, who points her to the library and a mineral book. She discovers a whole world of crystals and begins walking the river frequently to look for more.

4. Teacher takes class on field trip to the state museum. Boy takes good look at a piece of granite and sees for the first time how it is made of many different minerals. He decides he should look at other rocks and discover what he has been missing.

5. Old neighborhood rockhound keeps pile of interesting fossils and rocks on his porch. Neighborhood girl comes by just to see what's new.

The old rockhound loves to tell her about each one. She is amazed at how different each is from the others. He invites her and other neighborhood kids on a collecting trip and she finds her own really neat fossils. Girl decides she wants to be like him and tell people about fossils and rocks.

A final note: Rockhounditis is extremely contagious and knows no age limitations. However, getting a good case usually requires being near a rockhound who is so excited about rocks that he/she can't help showing, speaking about and sharing rocks with others.

HOW TO SPREAD IT

Opportunity, enthusiasm, interaction and education are all involved in spreading "rockhounditis" to a younger generation. To get a junior program in a local club, consider:

1. What activities can you offer potential young rockhounds to expose them to the wonderful world of rocks, minerals or fossils? Some possibilities include interaction in 4-H; scouting, home school, public or parochial school programs; junior meetings during club business meetings; and junior games at rock shows.
2. Who in your club is enthusiastic about the hobby? Encourage, support and assist such people in reaching out to juniors.
3. Where can you take juniors to experience collecting? If no actual collecting sites are near, how about creating a "salted" rock pile in a member's yard?
4. How can you simplify what you know about rocks, minerals and fossils in order to communicate it to an 8-year-old? Use "hands-on" methods and keep it very simple. The love of rocks is contagious. Be willing to share it.

EFMLS News --March, 2011



COMING EVENTS

Allyson Gardner will lead volunteer labs at the Wall Center from 6 to 8 pm this spring on the following dates. Allyson is a student at Warren Wilson College with three years of experience working at the Berry site. She assisted Caroline Ketrone with the labs last fall.

Can't make it at 6? That's okay! You are welcome to come anytime between 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

Jan 31, Feb 14, Feb 28, March 14, March 28, April 11, April 25, May 9, May 23

- Pottery Festival, Burke County Fairgrounds; 10:00 am - 4:00 pm - **May 21**
- Field School at Berry site – **June 6 - July 1**
- Annual Meeting, Western Piedmont Community College; 6:30 pm - **July 21**
- Annual Public Field Day at the Berry Site; 10:00 am - 2:00 pm - **June 25**

For more information regarding these and other EJF activities, see our homepage at ExploringJoara.org or call 439-2463

First Class Mail



TAR HEEL ROCKHOUND

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GEM AND MINERAL CLUB, INC.

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No Club Meeting

41st Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Show
March 18-20th
Hickory Metro Convention Center

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